CAZØN ENG

# IT'S YOUR MOVE a publication for Grade 8 students (and their parents)



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#### Introduction

What will you be doing five years from now? Fifteen years from now...twenty... fifty....

Ask yourself: "How do I want to live? What do I want to work at? What do I want to have? What do I want to know? By the time I'm 18...25...40....?

Your answers should affect your thinking and your choices of school subjects right now. Don't let the future -your future-just happen. If you do. you're not likely to be happy with it. Start shaping it yourself, now.

After all, you'll probably spend 40 years or more working, (Girls, this applies to you as well. Today, a career for you is more than a bridge between school and marriage. Many of you will be employed all your lives.) Without proper qualifications, you can spend long years in jobs you don't like, jobs

Knowing what kind of future you want is one thing. Knowing how to attain it is another. So where do you go for realistic answers and advice?

a) School Guidance Counsellors Go and see them. That's what they are there for. (Maybe, that's the kind of job you would like.) They know the kind of jobs available, the training required, how much it costs, and where you can get money to help pay for courses. They can also help you assess your particular abilities.

b) Reading Material There is a great variety of pamphlets, brochures, and other printed material describing careers. School guidance services usually have a good selection of literature and you're welcome to drop in

One of every two high school graduates now chooses some form of education after high school in order to develop more knowledge and skills and improve job opportunities.

that bore and dull you, jobs that pay badly...

. After high school, what then? A job? Some travel? Half of today's high school graduates now seek further education or training. The modern world is a specialized place and more and more occupations require certificates, degrees, diplomas, etc., as proof that you have the necessary skills.

Learning, of course, is more than just job training. Knowledge is power—the power to positively affect your life and the life of others. Finding out what you are good at and learning to do it well are basic to self-respect. But it makes good sense to find out where your particular talents and skills fit into the job market

and browse. The list of publications on the back page should give you some

c) People in the World of Work If you have the opportunity, check as well with someone in the field to get first-hand information. For instance, if accounting interests you, talk to an accountant about training and working conditions. If it's welding, talk to a welder ....

A word of caution. Don't expect anyone to be as interested in your future as you are. If one source lets you down, try another and another. Go to as many sources as possible

ideas about information that is available.





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#### **Questions to Ask**

 What activities do I like best, both in and out of school?
 What are my best subjects at school?
 What jobs have I read about that seemed interesting?

The answers will help you to focus on a career area - that means, not a specific career necessarily but a general field where there are all sorts of different job possibilities, according to your particular talents.

For instance, are you interested in health and medicine? You might become a dentist or a medical records librarian. An interest in the food and hospitality field might lead to a position as a hotel manager or a dietitian. You may prefer to be a top-notch technician, or a competent office employee, or a successful sales person.

Try to avoid pinning a particular job label on yourself for as long as you can. In the 1970's it is more important to train for a general career area than for a specific job. Besides developing your knowledge and personality, your studies should be teaching you skills that may be useful in many jobs in many fields.

2. What subjects must I take at high school to prepare myself?

Once you have chosen a career area you find interesting, you need to know what subjects to take now so you are adequately prepared for courses after high school. It would hardly make sense to choose nursing without having several science credits, or to choose radio and television arts without a good standing in English or to decide on teaching without knowing that it now requires a university degree.

School guidance offices usually have booklets from various institutions outlining the educational requirements for entry into various trade, managerial, business or professional occupations. If yours doesn't, send for some of the publications listed here on the last page.

3. Where do I learn the skills and acquire the knowledge for my career?

There are many choices after high school. As well as university, there are agricultural colleges, business schools, private trade schools, accountancy courses and medical technology programs. You may opt for apprenticeship training after obtaining 14 high school credits or you may decide to attend a community college after achieving 27 credits (year 4 or grade 12). Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto offers a great variety of courses including journalism, home economics, interior design and engineering technology. Other special schools include the School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo, the Veterinary College at the University of Guelph and the Ontario College of Art in Toronto.

Students interested in the admission requirements and programs should check the most recent copy of *Horizons* in the guidance office.

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#### 4. How long will I need to study?

It's important to keep in mind that some careers require longer periods of training than others. If you're not genuinely fond of studying for instance, it would be unwise to consider becoming a doctor - a career requiring a total of seven years' work at university and medical school. Let's take an example of a "career area" to show the different types of training available and, how long each takes. Suppose you are interested in building or mechanics or electronics; you could become involved in engineering. Almost all universities in Ontario offer degrees in engineering that require four years of study. Community colleges have courses for engineering technicians and technologists who are assistants to professional engineers. This training takes two or three years.

If academic work doesn't appeal to you very much, an apprenticeship in one of the construction trades might be more suitable. For instance, an apprenticeship training program for brick and stone mason tradesmen takes three and a half years but there is both on-the-job training and classroom work at a community

college.

5. How much money will my training cost?

After high school, there are many extra costs to be considered in your education.

i) Tuition Fees: For most post-secondary training, you must pay the university, community college or school. These fees vary from \$250 to \$300 per year for community college programs to more than \$600 a year for university programs. An apprentice in a trade has his tuition fees paid for by the federal and provincial governments, as long as he is a full-time student.

ii) Living Expenses: Although many students live at home while attending college or university, this is not always possible. Those who live in university residences pay \$850 to \$1,200 a year for room and meals. Many live in rooming houses or in student co-operative houses or off-campus apartments. You should allow \$15 to \$20 a week for room and another \$15 to \$20 for food per week. Many students attending community colleges usually live at home.

iii) Other Expenses: College and university students may need to consider transportation costs, either bus or car pool; book costs of about \$150 per year; a student activity fee; and about \$10 a week for everyday expenses.

Therefore, counting books and tuition and living expenses, the annual costs can vary from a bare minimum of \$600 for a student attending a local community college and living free at home to more than \$2,000 for a student attending university and living on campus or in a rooming house.

6. What happens if I want to go to university or college but my parents can't afford to send me?

Many students now attending university or college would have been unable to do so 20 years ago because of the costs. Now, students with ability are able to continue their education with the assistance of scholarships, loans and grants.

i) Scholarships and Bursaries: Most universities have entrance scholarships for a few students with outstanding academic ability. Industrial and veterans' organizations, and service clubs and

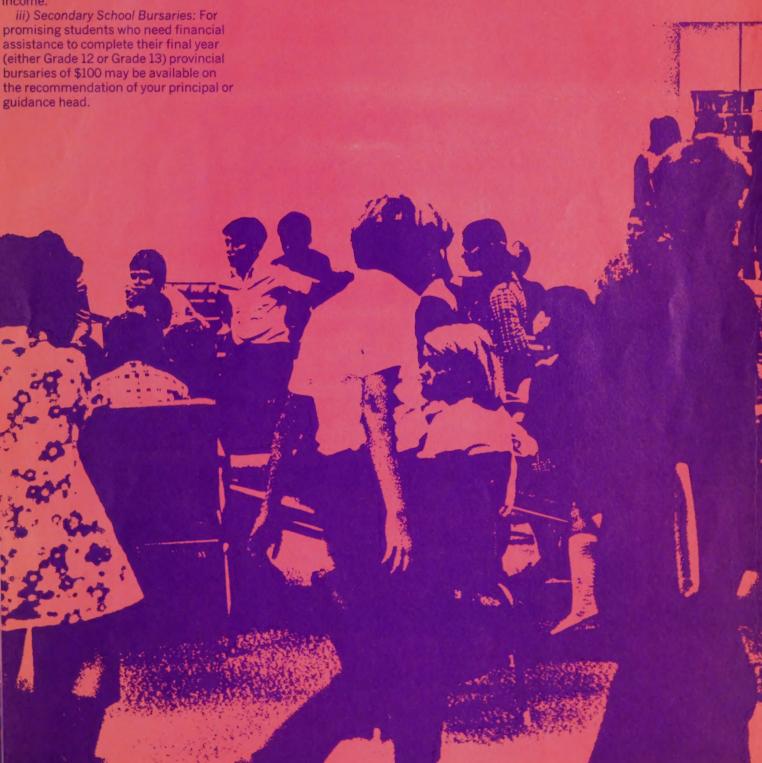


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associations such as Kiwanis and Rotary offer some scholarships and bursaries to high school graduates who are excellent in certain subject areas.

ii) Ontario Student Awards Program (OSAP): About two out of every five Ontario students pursuing full-time studies after high school receive financial help through Canada Student Loans and grants from the Ontario Government. The assistance can range from \$50 to \$2,000 or more for a year of study, depending on your actual educational costs and your family's income.

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#### Universities

school.

Ontario has 16 universities, including the Royal Military College of Canada, which offer a wide range of degree and professional programs. Currently, students wishing to enter bachelor degree programs (first university degree) must have an average of 60% or better in a selection of subjects (Grade 13 level). Universities will usually give preference to students with high standing rather than those with a borderline average. Professional courses such as architecture, medicine, law and dentistry, where there is keen competition for places, may require a student to have an average of at least 70%.

You can learn more by visiting a university with a group of students from your school. Also representatives of the different universities visit high school districts all across Ontario to talk to students, teachers and parents about the facilities and programs offered at their institutions. A representative of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities will visit secondary schools on request to speak to students about financial assistance programs. You can ask about these visits while you are attending high





### University is not the only choice after high school.

Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Toronto

Ryerson is the only polytechnical institute in Canada. Its graduates qualify for degrees, diplomas and certificates in a wide variety of programs.

In general, a Secondary School Graduation Diploma (Grade 12) is required for admission, with a good standing in certain subjects, depending on the program you apply for. A Secondary School Honours Graduation Diploma (Grade 13) is necessary for admission to courses in interior design, journalism, and radio and television arts. Degrees are now offered in these courses, and in the home economics program, but there are only limited numbers of places available, so preference is given to students with better grades.

Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (CAATs)

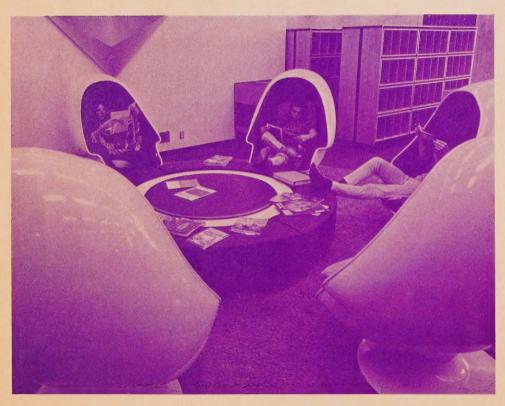
Ontario has 22 community colleges with more than 60 campuses in all parts of the province. The colleges of applied arts and technology train you for particular jobs in business, technology and applied arts and almost all their graduates find employment. Certificate and diploma programs may be one, two or three years in length. Apprenticeship and manpower retraining programs are also offered at the CAATs.

It is not the purpose of community colleges to prepare students for university, although a few promising graduates from colleges of applied arts and technology are accepted each year into related university programs.

The Secondary School Graduation Diploma (Grade 12) is the minimum requirement for admission to most community college diploma programs. However, a higher standing in certain subjects may be required for the three-year programs in particular. For further information, consult *Horizons* or the CAAT calendars in the guidance office or arrange to visit a community college in your area.

#### **Ontario College of Art**

The Ontario College of Art offers fouryear programs in the fine and applied arts leading to the Associate OCA diploma. Many OCA graduates work in design and commercial art firms. Applicants must have at least the equivalent of the Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma (Grade 12), and must pass the college admission test with good standing.





#### Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston

RMC is basically a military college to educate and train engineering and other officers for the Canadian Armed Forces. Students who wish to attend must be male Canadian citizens between the ages of 16 and 21, single, physically fit and must have successfully completed a Secondary School Honours Graduation Diploma (Grade 13) with mathematics and science. Financial support through the Regular Officer Training Plan is available for promising students. Officers from Recruiting and Selection Units are pleased to provide you with details of the many career opportunities for young men and women in the Canadian Armed Forces.



#### **Industrial Training**

Information on careers in industry is available from your high school counsellors, from Canada Manpower Centres, from the local offices of the Industrial Training Branch, and from the unions and associations of various trade groups.

Often employers and the unions will consider applicants who have two or three years more than the minimum education demanded by regulations governing certain trades. Also, if you obtain in high school the algebra, geometry, trigonometry, chemistry, physics. and other subjects related to or necessary for a trade, this will increase your chances of acceptance, reduce your trade training time considerably, and qualify you for higher pay more quickly. Apprentices attending full-time courses are eligible to receive travelling, tuition, and living expenses in addition to their regular pay.

From time to time, short-term training programs are sponsored by the federal and provincial governments. Many of these are on-the-job programs, but they include some classroom work. Depending on the skills to be learned, they may last from one month to one year. Short-term training is available in a wide range of occupations. Sewing machine operation, textile work, mining, woodwork, aircraft fitting, lathe operation, foundry work, welding, and leather cutting are a few for which this type of earn-while-you-learn training is available.





#### **Career Ideas**

The following diagrams indicate the basic "career areas" and some of the common occupations within them - also some unusual ones to stimulate your imagination!

Don't avoid what you think might be an interesting career simply because it has not been considered "suitable" for a girl in the past.



## A few contemporary career ideas....

#### Social Sciences

Child-Care Worker
Lawyer
Librarian
Policeman/Policewoman
Private Investigator
Psychologist
Recreation Leader
Religious Worker
Social Worker
Teacher
Town Planner

#### Science

Agrologist
Archaeologist
Astronomer
Botanist
Cartographer
Chemist
Engineer
Forester
Geologist
Meteorologist
Ornithologist
Physicist
Zoologist

#### Health

Dental Hygienist
Dietitian
Medical Laboratory Technician
Medical Record Librarian
Nursing Assistant
Occupational Therapist
Optometrist
Pharmacist
Public Health Nurse
Surgeon
Veterinarian
X-Ray Technician







